



Na Pu'uwai
Native Hawaiian Health Care System
PO Box 130 Kaunakakai, Hawaii 96748
(808) 560-3653 • Fax (808) 560-3385

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Na Pu'uwai Fitness Center (808) 553-5848 • Senior Enrichment Center (808) 553-5099
• Ke Ola Hou O Lana'i • PO Box 630713 Lana'i City, Hawaii 96763 • (808) 565-7204 • Fax (808) 565-9319

Received & Inspected

February 23, 2012

MAR - 5 2012

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

FCC Mail Room

Re: Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. Petition for Waiver of 47 C.F.R. 54.302, WC Doc. No. 10-90, WT Doc. No. 10-208

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing in support of Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc.'s (SIC) waiver request before the FCC. Na Puuwai is a non-profit organization that provides health services to Native Hawaiians on Molokai and Lanai islands. Our administrative office is located at 604 Maunaloa Hwy (Kulana 'Oiwī Complex), Kaunakakai, Hawaii 96748. Broadband access is critical to ensuring we can keep costs down while providing the necessary services to our clients on both islands.

SIC has provided us with telecommunications service since July of 2000. Your continued support will ensure their investment in fiber optic infrastructure in our underserved communities. Once complete, SIC's robust and reliable statewide fiber optic network will expand broadband capabilities and provide affordable access for community anchor institutions, like ours. This will result in substantial benefits for the entire state, but especially our rural and remote communities, delivering improved education, healthcare, and economic development opportunities in a way only broadband can provide.

As Hawaii's only Rural Local Exchange Carrier (RLEC), SIC is the only carrier that has consistently demonstrated its commitment to ensuring Hawaii's rural and remote areas have access to broadband infrastructure. SIC has and will continue to provide broadband access in Hawaii's most rural and remote areas, squarely in line with the spirit and intent of Universal Service. Plainly put, we strongly believe the future broadband capabilities of our organization and our community hinge on SIC's ability to continue to fund critical infrastructure investments in our rural communities.

We are in full support of SIC's waiver request and look forward to the benefits adequate and affordable broadband access will provide.

We respectfully request your favorable consideration of SIC's waiver request to assist in the deployment of broadband in Hawaii's rural and remote communities.

Sincerely,

William Akutagawa
Executive Director

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A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE BETTERMENT OF THE HEALTH CONDITIONS OF NATIVE HAWAIIANS

File Name:
Revised: